

National Recreation and Preservation/Statutory or Contractual Aid for Other Activities

JUSTIFICATION OF PROGRAM AND PERFORMANCE

Activity: Statutory or Contractual Aid for Other Activities
Subactivity: Ice Age National Scientific Reserve

Program Component	1999 Estimate	Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	2000 Budget Request	Change From 1999 (+/-)
Ice Age National Scientific Reserve	806	0	0	806	0
Total Requirements \$(000)	806	0	0	806	0

AUTHORIZATION

16 U.S.C. 469d-469i, Ice Age National Scientific Reserve Act, as amended.

OVERVIEW

The NPS cooperates with the State of Wisconsin to protect and interpret the nationally significant landscapes and landforms which resulted from continental glaciation and now comprise the **Ice Age National Scientific Reserve**.

APPLICABLE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MISSION GOALS

- Ia Natural and cultural resources and associated values are protected, restored and maintained in good condition and managed within their broader ecosystem and cultural context.
- Ib The National Park Service contributes to knowledge about natural and cultural resources and associated values; management decisions about resources and visitors are based on adequate scholarly and scientific information.
- IIa Visitors safely enjoy and are satisfied with the availability, accessibility, diversity, and quality of park facilities, services, and appropriate recreational opportunities.
- IIb Park visitors and the general public understand and appreciate the preservation of parks and their resources for this and future generations.
- IIIa Natural and cultural resources are conserved through formal partnership programs.
- IIIb Through partnerships with other Federal, State, and local agencies and nonprofit organizations, a nationwide system of parks, open space, rivers, and trails provides educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people.

***Ice Age National Scientific Reserve
FY 1999 Estimated Program and Anticipated Accomplishments***

Enacted: \$806,000

The Ice Age National Scientific Reserve contains nationally significant examples of the effect of continental glaciers in shaping the surface of the earth. The reserve consists of nine separate units, six of which are operational: Kettle Moraine State Forest, Horicon State Wildlife Area, Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area, Devils Lake, Mill Bluff, and Interstate State Parks. The Service cooperates with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in managing, operating, maintaining, and interpreting the reserve and its resources by paying for up to one-half the annual operations, maintenance, and rehabilitation costs, in accordance with the authorizing legislation. The State of Wisconsin pays the balance, which is at least 50 percent. The administrative partnership for the reserve is defined in a

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cooperative agreement. The \$806,000 appropriated in fiscal year 1999 represents the Federal share of expenses for operating the reserve.

Accomplishments in FY 1998 included completion of a draft of the feasibility study for expansion of the Cross Plains unit located near Madison. The report was circulated for public review, and public information meetings were held in conjunction with guided tours of the glacial landscape around the unit. Work was begun on the final design and production of wayside exhibits that will be installed at five of the units. Recreational facilities and visitor services for camping, hiking, nature appreciation, picnicking, boating, swimming, and other activities were operated, maintained, and improved. Interpretive programs for visitors and school and other groups were conducted throughout the year at the six operational sites and continue to be popular. Development and design for an interpretive handbook and guidebook to serve both the reserve and the Ice Age National Scenic Trail was initiated. Production of a new video program highlighting the reserve and the trail was also initiated.

In FY 1999, the Cross Plains study will be completed and future directions for that unit determined. Final design work on educational wayside exhibit panels for five of the units will be completed. Production of the panels will be contracted and installation at several of the units completed. The DNR will initiate a feasibility study for expanding the Devil's Lake State Park unit as well as work on relocating and improving portions of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail that passes through the park. A project to restore prairie at Roznos Meadows in Devil's Lake State Park will be started. Work will continue on design and preparation of the interpretive handbook/guidebook. The new video highlighting the reserve and trail will be completed, duplicated, and distributed to partners and interpretive locations along the trail.

In FY 2000, Federal support of the Ice Age National Scientific Reserve is proposed to remain unchanged. The State of Wisconsin will continue to provide high-quality educational and recreational opportunities for an estimated 2.7 million annual visitors to the six operational reserve units. Installation of the educational wayside exhibits will be completed. New foot bridges will be constructed along the Ice Age Trail in Devils Lake State Park in connection with the relocation and improvement project there. Work will continue on the study of the Devil's Lake unit expansion. If funding is available, the interpretive handbook/guidebook will be printed and distributed.